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PRESS RELEASE

Adopt-A-Beach cleanup nets more than three tons of trash

Winter Beach Cleanup volunteers enjoy a day at the beach and a clean conscious

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AUSTIN — Cigarette butts, beer cans, dirty diapers and more - volunteers at Saturday's Winter Beach Cleanup picked up more than three tons of trash from Coastal Bend beaches.

A total of 261 volunteers focused their efforts on Corpus Christi Beach at the Texas State Aquarium, Port Aransas beaches and at Padre Island National Seashore. The most trash, about 3,500 pounds worth, was picked up at Corpus Christi Beach. The cleanups at Padre Island National Seashore and Port Aransas found 1,375 pounds of trash and 1,250 pounds, respectively.

Odd items found by the beachcombers included a dock line from a large ship and an old boot.

The Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Program is one of the most successful volunteer efforts in the nation. The Winter Cleanup is one of three all-volunteer seasonal cleanups coordinated by the Adopt-A-Beach Program.

The goal of General Land Office's Adopt-A-Beach Program is to not only remove trash from Texas beaches and waterways but to also increase public awareness of the problems of marine debris and beach litter.

As volunteers clean up beaches they record data to learn more about the causes of marine debris and to help mitigate pollution along Texas' 367 miles of coastline. Since 1986, more than 423,000 volunteers have removed more than 8,100 tons of trash from the Texas coast. That's enough to fill up a line of dump trucks 90 miles long.

For additional information on the Winter Texan Beach Cleanup and the Adopt-A-Beach Program, or to participate in the next cleanup visit www.texasadoptabeach.org . You may also call the Texas General Land Office toll free at 1-877-TXCOAST.

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